REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Applicants initially note that an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was filed on October 30, 2003, citing one reference and a European search report. The reference cited in that IDS at this point has not been acknowledged as considered. Applicants respectfully request in response to this Office Action that the filed IDS be acknowledged as considered.

Claims 1-24 are pending in this application. Claims 1-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. patent 6,523,696 to Saito et al. (herein "Saito").

Addressing the above-noted rejection based on Saito, that rejection is traversed by the present response.

Applicants initially note that each of the independent claims is amended by the present response to clarify features recited therein. Specifically, independent claim 1 now clarifies that in a communication node one communication node on a first network can disclose its own configuration information regarding what its constituent elements are to another communication node on a second network, and "such that said one communication node is recognized as a part of the communication node on the second network by said another communication node". With such a structure the one communication node on the first network can be viewed as a communication node on the second network. The other independent claims are also amended by the present response to make similar clarifications, and are believed to distinguish over the applied art.

In further detail, independent claim 1 recites that a communication node (for example a base station node) recognizes one communication node on a first network (for example a radio network) as one of its own constituent elements (for example a Sub Unit) and discloses its own configuration information to another communication node on a second network (for example an IEEE 1394 bus), such that the another communication node on the second

network (for example the IEEE 1394 bus) recognizes the one communication node on the first network (for example the radio network) as if it is a constituent element (for example a Sub Unit) of the claimed communication node. In other words, the one communication node is not recognized as existing on the first network, although it is actually on the first network, but instead is viewed as if it is a part of the communication node on the second network.

Similarly to independent claim 1 as noted above, independent claim 8 recites a communication node that discloses first configuration information regarding constituent elements (for example Sub Units) in one communication node on a first network (for example a radio network) as its own constituent elements (for example the Sub Units), to another communication node on a second network (for example an IEEE 1394 bus), and/or discloses second configuration information regarding constituent elements (for example the Sub Units) in the other communication node on the second network (for example the IEEE 1394 bus) as its own constituent element (for example the Sub Units), to the one communication node on the first network (for example the radio network). In other words, the communication node of claim 8 provides configuration information disclosing a function similar to that of the communication node of claim 1, with respect to both communication nodes on both networks.

With respect to independent claim 16, independent claim 16 recites a communication node that transfers data to be exchanged between a processing unit and an application executed on another communication node on a second network (for example an IEEE 1394 bus), through a first interface unit connected to a first network (for example a radio network), such that the one communication node connected to the first network (for example the radio network) is handled as if it is connected to the second network (for example the IEEE 1394 bus). In other words, claim 16 recites a communication node that transfers data to the one communication node on the first network (for example the radio network), on behalf of an

application that is executed at another communication node on the second network (for example the IEEE 1394 bus).

With respect to independent claim 19, independent claim 19 recites a communication network terminal that communicates with a communication node on a second network (for example an IEEE 1394 bus), discloses functions in the communication terminal as Sub Units in an AV/C protocol executed on an IEEE 1394 bus, and receives information regarding the Sub Units existing in that communication node on the second network (for example the IEEE 1394 bus), while making a connection to a communication node on a first network (for example a radio network). In other words, in claim 19 the communication terminal is connected to the first network (for example the radio network), but is also capable of communicating with a node on the second network (for example the IEEE 1394 bus) through a communication node (for example a base station node), by disclosing its own functions as if they are Sub Units on the IEEE 1394 bus.

With respect to independent claim 22, independent claim 22 recites a communication terminal that communicates with a communication node on a second network (for example an IEEE 1394 bus) and executes an application on the second network (for example the IEEE 1394 bus), while making a connection to a communication node on a first network (for example a radio network). In other words, in claim 22 the communication terminal is actually connected to the first network (for example the radio network), but is also capable of communicating with a node on the second network (for example the IEEE 1394 bus) through a communication node (for example a base station node), by executing an application on the second network (for example the IEEE 1394 bus) at the communication terminal itself.

The outstanding Office Action cites Saito at column 2, line 66 to column 3, line 53, and particularly at column 3, lines 3-22, to meet the claim limitations. However, in that

respect applicants respectfully submit that such teachings in Saito do not meet the claimed features described above.

More particularly, the noted portions of Saito merely disclose a communication control device (AV connection device) that collects service information of devices connected to a first network (an IEEE 1394 bus) and notifies the collected service information to a device connected to a second network (a public network). Applicants note that the service information collected and notified in Saito is information regarding a service provided by the device on the first network (the IEEE 1394 bus), which is distinct from the claimed features of disclosing one communication node on a first network as a constituent element of the claimed communication node to another communication node on a second network, and particularly such that the one communication node is recognized as a part of a claimed communication node on the second network by the another communication node, as clarified in the claims as noted above.

Applicants further respectfully submit that in Saito the service information collection and notification provide no teaching or suggestion of a communication node that recognizes one communication node on a first network as one of its own constituent elements and discloses its own configuration information to another communication node on a second network, such that the another communication node on the second network recognizes the one communication node on the first network as if it is a constituent element of the claimed communication node, as clarified in independent claim 1 as noted above.

Applicants further respectfully submit that the service information collection and notification in Saito provide no teaching or suggestion of a communication node that discloses first configuration information regarding constituent elements in one communication node on a first network as its own constituent elements, to another communication node on a second network, and/or discloses second configuration information

regarding constituent elements in the another communication node on the second network as its own constituent elements, to the one communication node on the first network, as clarified in independent claim 8 noted above.

Applicants further submit that the service information collection and notification noted in Saito provide no teaching or suggestion of a communication node that transfers data to be exchanged between a processing unit and an application executed on another communication node on a second network, through a first interface unit connected to the first network, such that the one communication node connected to the first network is handled as if it is connected to the second network, as clarified in independent claim 16.

Applicants also respectfully submit that the service information collection and notification disclosed in Saito provide no teaching or suggestion of a communication terminal that communicates with a communication node on a second network, discloses the communication terminal as Sub Units in a AV/C protocol executed on an IEEE 1394 bus, and receives the information regarding Sub Units existing in that communication node on the second network, while making a connection to the communication node on a first network, as clarified in independent claim 19 noted above.

Applicants also submit that that the service information collection and notification disclosed in Saito provide no teaching or suggestion of a communication terminal that communicates with the communication node on a second network and executes an application on the second network, while making a connection to a communication node on a first network, as clarified in independent claim 22 noted above.

In such ways, applicants respectfully submit that each of amended independent claims 1, 8, 16, 19, and 22, and the claims dependent therefrom, patentably distinguish over the teachings in Saito.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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